Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 OSLO 01593 190818Z

11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 MC-02 COME-00 EB-07 ACDA-05 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

SAM-01 L-02 /063 W

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R 181529Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9606

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USCINCEUR

OSAF WASHDC

OASD/ISA

CONFIDENTIAL OSLO 1593

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BEXP MASS NATO NO

SUBJECT: AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENT

REF: OSLO 1463

1. DEFENSE MINISTER FOSTERVOLL HAS REVIEWED WITH ME HIS IMPRESSIONS OF CURRENT STATE OF PLAY ON AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENT ISSUE IN TELEPHONE CONVERSATION APRIL 18. FOLLOWING ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF MINISTER'S VIEWS:

THE NETHERLANDS -- DEFENSE MINISTER VREDELING, WITH THE FULL SUPPORT OF FOREIGN MINISTER MAX VAN DER STOEL, FEELS CONFIDENT THAT THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT WILL RECOMMEND ACQUISITION OF F-16 DURING APRIL AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 OSLO 01593 190818Z

WILL NOT FALL OVER THE ISSUE.

BELGIUM -- VANDEN BOEYNANTS HAS NOW INVOLVED BELGIAN PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES WHICH FOSTERVOLL BELIEVES MAY CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT IN ARRIVING AT AN EARLY DECISION. ALTHOUGH THE BELGIANS HAVE GONE BACK TO BOTH FRENCH INDUSTRY AND FRENCH GOVERNMENT FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS, FOSTERVOLL IS STILL OPTIMISTIC AND SPECULATES THAT CHANCES ARE 90 PERCENT IN FAVOR OF PRO-F-16 DECISION BY BELGIUM.

NORWAY -- SITUATION IN NORWAY IS VERY MUCH ON TRACK AND FOSTERVOLL HOPES TO HAVE F-16 ISSUE BEFORE STORTING (PARLIAMENT) NEXT WEEK OR AT LATEST THE WEEK AFTER. OBVIOUS PROBLEMS WOULD BE CREATED FOR FOSTERVOLL VIS A VIS STORTING CONSIDERATION OF THE AIRCRAFT ISSUE SHOULD BELGIUM OPT OUT OF THE CONSORTIUM.

2. NEXT MOD MEETING, ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR MAY 5 IN LONDON(PARA 6 REFTEL) IS NOW TENTATIVELY SET FOR MAY 12 WITH BRUSSELS AS THE PROBABLE LOCATION. BYRNE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

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